

WE CLAIM:

1. In a vehicle having a forward console, a display system comprising:
  - a display mounted on the forward console of the vehicle, the display including a generally horizontal display surface configured to present an image; and
  - 5 a reflecting element including an opaque reflective surface configured to reflect the presented image for viewing by a vehicle occupant.

2. The display system of claim 1, wherein the forward console includes a steering mechanism, and wherein the display is mounted forward of the steering mechanism.

3. The display system of claim 1, wherein the forward console includes a steering column with a steering wheel, and wherein the display is mounted on the steering column forward of the steering wheel.

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4. The display system of claim 3, wherein the display is mounted along a central axis of the steering column.

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5. A display system comprising:

a base including a display with an upwardly-facing display surface; and

a mirror including an opaque reflective surface, the mirror being pivotally mounted to the base for pivot between a stowed orientation wherein the reflective surface is generally parallel with the display surface, and a deployed orientation wherein the reflective surface extends upwardly from the display surface at an angle relative to the display surface to reflect the presented image for viewing of the presented image on the reflective surface.

10 6. The display system of claim 5, wherein the mirror is a concave mirror.

7. The display system of claim 5, wherein the mirror is a convex mirror.

8. The display system of claim 5, wherein the mirror is a flat-plane mirror.

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9. The display system of claim 5, wherein the mirror is a flat-to-concave mirror.

10. The display system of claim 5, wherein the mirror is a flat-to-convex mirror.

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11. A vehicle comprising:

a front console including a vehicle steering mechanism supported on a steering column which defines a first axis;

an operator position behind the steering mechanism in the vehicle along the first  
5 axis; and

a display system including a display mounted at the steering column along the first  
axis, the display including a display surface facing other than rearwardly of the vehicle  
and configured to present a focused image thereon and a reflecting element mounted at  
the front console and including an opaque reflective surface configurable to reflect the  
10 focused image for viewing from the operator position.